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TAC Minutes, 04/13/2011

Town of Arlington

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 4/13/11, 7:15 pm to 10:05 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Wayne Chouinard, Jean Clark, John Lentz, Andy Machado, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Mike Rademacher, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Rich Turcotte, Laura Wiener.

Missing Members and Associates: Jessica French, Steve Kurland.

Visitors Present: Deborah D'Amico, Principal, Hardy School.

- Public Comments. None.
- Administration.
 - Minutes of 2/9/11 were approved unanimously, as amended.
 - Correspondence and other handouts were reviewed.
- Town Issues and Activities. Laura reported that the ARB is again considering a proposal for Symmes, from a developer called Jefferson Apartment Group, with some of the same staff as JPI, and with a similar configuration of units. Mike reported that Forest St. reconstruction is going forward.
- Hardy School. Principal Deb D'Amico thanked the TAC for attention to matters at the school. Regarding limiting parking on Brooks Ave., some staff need to park on the street occasionally. Corey said we will install parking signs consistent with other schools. TAC voted unanimously to endorse recommendation to limit parking on Brooks. School will notify abutters. Deb also reported that the Biking to School initiative is going well. The 2 bike racks are widely used, with no major issues.
- Appleton/Mass. Ave. Laura reported that MassDOT has identified this intersection as a high crash location, and will provide staff to study it, if the Town supports that, and will prioritize it for implementation of recommendations. A Working Group was appointed, with members Corey, Elisabeth, Wayne, Jeff, Laura and Ed.
- Bates Road. Howard collected data from Mass. Ave. side street study and from Corey, as well as info on the Bates/Warren traffic signal. The southbound trips are heavier than northbound, which may indicate that some northbound traffic coming off Lake Street goes right at Winter St. The 85th percentile speed was 31 mph southbound and 30 mph northbound. The average speed was 27 mph southbound and 24 mph northbound, indicating that there is not a notable speeding problem. *Recommendation voted unanimously: Data does not warrant action at this time.* Howard will draft report for Selectmen.
- Mass/Water. Corey will collect data, mostly volume, as well as speeds on Russell. Educational efforts about upcoming changes to the traffic circulation will begin with an Advocate article in May, and postings at the Library, Post Office, UU church, and the Town website in late June and early July. Also, temporary signs

announcing change will be placed on the streets. Changes will take place on July 15. TAC will repeat measurements in 4 months.

- CVS post-operation evaluation. Jeff and Ed will meet to plan on how to evaluate traffic improvements installed when CVS was built.
- North Union Parking. DPW will measure the width of the street. TAC will review the one side of the street parking policy.
- Schools.
 - Dallin sidewalks moving forward.
 - Peirce—Safe Routes Coordinator is leaving Arlington. Will need a replacement.
 - Ottoson—May 4 is Walk to School Day
 - Flag Pilot Program—2 school sites chosen
 - Brackett—Gray at Pine Ridge
 - Dallin—Rhinecliff at Dow Ave.
 - Jean will order flags
- Lowell St. Elisabeth reported that there will be a meeting with neighbors near the Res to try to come to agreement on solutions to the speeding problems there.
- Advocate and Education. The first column in the Advocate will be by Jack Johnson of the Bike Advisory Committee. Ed will write the second column in May to announce the Water St. and Spengler Way right turn only change
- Route 2/Route 16 intersection. Howard and Laura attended MassDOT hearing on improvements planned for this intersection. A lane will be added on the right for traffic going west onto Route 2, as well as improvement at Route 2 east to Route 16. It is anticipated that all improvements can be made within the existing right-of-way. *Recommendation to write a letter of support, voted unanimously.* Howard will follow up.
- Mass. Ave. Public hearing occurred April 12. TAC will form an Ad Hoc Technical Working Group of Scott, Jeff, Tony Lionetta, Ed and Howard to review Functional Design Report and get any questions to Laura and Mike, to convey to FST. TAC will send a letter of endorsement to MassDOT emphasizing its benefit to the community, by 4/26. Howard will draft.
- Downing Square. Engineering Design is ready for final review. No major changes being proposed. Elisabeth will arrange a meeting with neighbors for their comments.
- CLAMP. Negotiating a contract with Howard/Stein-Hudson.
- Green Line Extension. Richard and Laura attended a meeting in Medford regarding building the Green Line to Mystic Valley Parkway. Goal of the meeting was to report on data. Next meeting is May 17.
- Bus Shelters. Process has slowed because Cemusa is resisting putting up new shelters. They are having trouble placing ads on existing shelters.
- Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm.

Meeting Materials:

- Ed's meeting packet: Agenda, 4/13/11; Memo to Ed Starr from Marie Krepelka Re. Change of Parking Regulations on North Union and Everett Streets; Email from Meg Moloney to Jack Hurd dated Nov. 15, 2009; BoS/ARB Project Status, 4/13/11; TAC Six Month Timeline; Status of Outstanding Actions, 4/13/11; Draft Actions from 3/9 TAC Meeting; Hardy School Recommendations, April, 2011; Preparation for Right Turn Only from Water and Spengler (4/13/11); CVS Evaluation after Six Months Operation;
- Minutes of 3/9/11;

- Arlington TAC Meeting Bates Road, April 13, 2011;
- Arlington TAC Meeting, Proposed Route 2/16 Improvements, April 13, 2011